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DIARY NOTES

1. At the Executive Committee Meeting this morning I reported to the Director on the status of our communications. At the same time, I

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told him that, should we have a second crisis anywhere in the world comwe might well be unable to handle the communications load. I explained that, because of the personnel ceiling which had been imposed upon us, we were hard pressed to handle one crisis at a time--let alone two. This evoked a discussion of the restricted personnel ceiling generally, and the Director indicated that, if we have requirements for an increase in personnel ceiling such as I outlined for the Office of Communications, he would certainly see that I got the additional allowance. (Later I met with ind briefed them on

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the Admiral's attitude, and asked them to develop a paper promptly which would give us greater built-in flexibility to take care of emergency or

crisis situations.)

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3. I talked with Emmett Echols about implementation of our early retirement regulation. He assured me that everything is in order and that he believes there are no delays. He said that the career services had been furnished tentative lists of their employees who will be eligible for retirement by 31 December 1965 and that the CIA Retirement Board is now waiting for more positive identification from the career services. In addition, the Board will meet this afternoon to consider five rather urgent cases.

- 4. I briefed Howard Osborn on Dick Helms' attitude and desires concerning the handling of problem cases, specifically regarding the use of the polygraph on Agency employees located in the United States.
- 5. Mr. Kirkpatrick asked this morning whether I had taken any action to ensure that those employees who were evacuated from Vietnam short of

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completion of their tours were given credit for a full two-year tour of duty. I pressed him for further details and learned that he apparently understood from General Carter that all military personnel were being given credit for a full two-year tour, which would count toward their retirement. Larry Houston was present, and we both assured Kirk that we thought this was not legally possible and that he had probably misunderstood General Carter. We did agree to look into it, however.

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- 6. General Carter called to ask me to take a personal interest in the placement of I told him that I would certainly do this. (I talked to Emmett Echols about this. Emmett said this will be a difficult problem, especially since Bernice has rather definite ideas about her working hours, where she wants to work, etc. I asked him to work hard on this and to keep me advised.)
- 7. General Carter stopped in to say that he had learned from that we had purchased a new car for Dick Helms. Further, General Carter confided that he will become the new Director of the National Security Agency, although this has not yet been publicly announced. Lt. General Gordon Blake, the present Director, has a light sedan which he finds quite uncomfortable for riding to and from Fort Meade. General Carter wanted to know whether there was any way we could transfer the old Lincoln to him at NSA if we were, in fact, going to retire it. I told him that I would explore this and said that, insofar as we were concerned, we would be glad to do this. On the other hand, he will have to arrange some way for the military to accept it.

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8. Howard Osborn was in to report on the following cases:

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b. Howard advised me that will leave the Agency on Friday, 7 May, and will resign effective 18 June.*

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